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man in the conceptions and usages of tribes to the full, for what I can see, as interesting as our much-lauded Aryan ancestors.

What use have we made of this marvellous opportunity? The white man has been living now for three hundred years side by side with these tribes, whose ideas, until within a very few years, have remained a sealed volume. Aboriginal ritual, and the faith contained in that ritual, we either do not possess at all, or possess only in fragmentary form. The material is perishing faster than it is recorded; the knell of this marvelous race is sounded; the wonderful spectacle of their existence is about to be removed from our eyes; we are to be left in a civilized world. With the disappearance of the American Indian will pass away the last opportunity for information; while we shall hand over to succeeding generations problems which cannot be solved, and doubts which will continue to vex the souls of investigators.

*W. W. Newell.*

**WABANAKI GAME OF BALL.** — In reply to inquiry, Mrs. Brown makes some additional explanations in regard to the Wabanaki game of ball, above alluded to. Two goals are made, consisting of holes dug in the ground, at a distance depending on the number of players, perhaps, if the latter are very numerous, as much as one hundred yards apart. A circle is then formed by those intending to partake in the sport, in such manner that the circumference of the circle passes through the goals. A person, standing in the centre, tosses up a chip, which he has marked with spittle. Each successive member of the circle says: "I'll take the wet," or "I'll take the dry." By this throw is determined to which faction each player should belong; as fast as the choice is effected the circle is broken up, and the players, now divided into parties, arrange themselves in two opposite lines, in front of their respective goals. After this arrangement is complete, a person who belongs to neither party, standing in the centre between the two lines, tosses up the chip, the descent of which determines which side shall begin the game. Victory consists in driving the ball into the goal of the adversaries; the bat used is a sort of racket, crooked at one end, and interwoven with strips of hide after the manner of snowshoes. The game is now little played.